

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1-14. (Canceled)

15. (Currently Amended) A method of treating ~~unwanted skin conditions~~ a patient who has an unwanted skin condition associated with the production of sebum, the method comprising: ~~cleaning a target skin area~~ generating, on the patient's skin, a target region having in a manner to substantially clear pores, wherein generating the target region comprises applying an acidic composition to an area of the patient's skin, heating the area, or mechanically abrading the area;

topically administering an exogenous chromophore onto the target region, skin area in a manner such that the exogenous chromophore is absorbed into target sebaceous glands, wherein the chromophore absorbs laser light having a wavelength between about 700 nm to about 1200 nm; and

irradiating the target sebaceous glands region with laser light having a wavelength between about 700 nm to about 1200 nm for a time sufficient to inhibit subsequent sebum production within the target region.

16. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 15, wherein ~~said step of cleaning a target skin area comprise~~ applying an acidic composition to an area of the patient's skin comprises topically applying a glycolic acid solution or a salicylic acid preparation to the area.

17. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 16, wherein the acidic solution is a glycolic acid solution and the method further comprises the step of where neutralizing the glycolic acid solution is neutralized using a by administering at least one neutralizing agent to the target region.

18. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 17, wherein ~~said~~ the neutralizing agent is ~~selected from the group consisting of water, a sodium bicarbonate solution, and or~~ GLYTONE®.

19. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 15, wherein ~~said~~ the glycolic acid solution is ~~removed by washing the target skin area with water~~ a 70% glycolic acid solution.

20. (New) The method of claim 15, further comprising, prior to the step of generating the target region, a step of wiping an area of the patient's skin with alcohol, wherein the area subjected to wiping is substantially the same as the target region.

21. (New) The method of claim 15, wherein the unwanted skin condition is acne.

22. (New) The method of claim 15, wherein the chromophore is a lipophilic chromophore.

23. (New) The method of claim 22, wherein the lipophilic chromophore is beta-carotene.

24. (New) The method of claim 15, wherein the chromophore is a dye.

25. (New) The method of claim 24, wherein the dye is indocyanine green, Rhodamine B, or cresyl violet.

26. (New) The method of claim 15, wherein the chromophore is combined with a lipophilic carrier.

27. (New) The method of claim 26, wherein the lipophilic carrier is a liposome.

28. (New) The method of claim 26, wherein the lipophilic carrier is a lipid suspension.

29. (New) The method of claim 28, wherein the lipid suspension comprises an oil or a surfactant.

30. (New) The method of claim 29, wherein the oil is a sunflower oil, an olive oil, or a safflower oil.

31. (New) The method of claim 15, wherein the wavelength is between about 750 nm and about 850 nm.

32. (New) The method of claim 15, wherein the wavelength is between about 800 nm and about 820 nm.

33. (New) The method of claim 15, wherein irradiating the target region with laser light comprises irradiating the target region with laser light having a pulse duration of about 200 msec.

34. (New) The method of claim 15, wherein irradiating the target region with laser light comprises irradiating the target region with laser light having a pulse duration of about 500 msec.

35. (New) A method of treating a patient who has acne, the method comprising:  
administering to the patient a first treatment comprising a topical acne medication; and  
administering to the patient a second treatment comprising applying a chromophore that absorbs laser light having a wavelength between about 700 nm to about 1200 nm to a target region of the patient's skin and irradiating the target region with laser light having a wavelength between about 700 nm to about 1200 nm, wherein the irradiating persists for a time sufficient to reduce, eliminate, or prevent the reoccurrence of the acne.

36. (New) The method of claim 35, wherein the topical acne medication comprises all-trans-retinoic acid.

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37. (New) The method of claim 35, wherein the topical acne medication comprises Retin-A®.